

Biodiversity: A major risk and an immediate opportunity for companies

28/05/2021

With the support of





Agenda

- 1 | How much is biodiversity worth?
- 2 | Why should companies act on biodiversity loss now?
- 3 | Global leaders are already tackling the biodiversity loss issue, but pain points must be lifted to go further
- 4 | What are the concrete solutions and action plans for companies?

Méthodologie utilisée dans notre étude

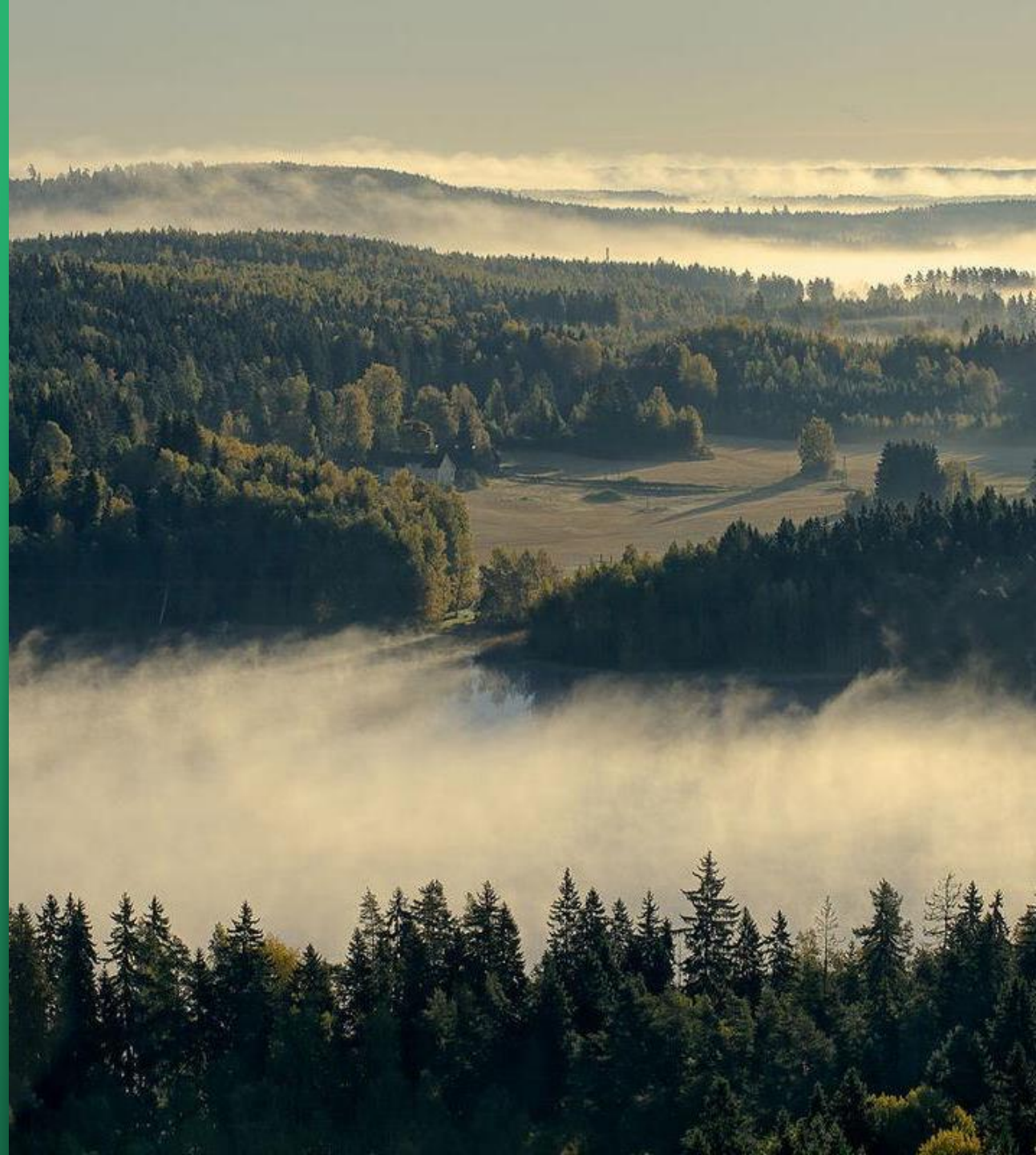
Analyse des rapports annuels

- Périmètre : ensemble des entreprises du CAC40
- Les critères regardés sont les actions déjà mises en place en faveur de la biodiversité, les engagements futurs et les KPIs surveillés par l'entreprise
- Des exemples d'actions vis-à-vis de la biodiversité incluent des initiatives sur les déchets et l'eau, des partenariats avec des ONG, des coalitions, la participation à des fonds d'investissement, la création de labels exigeants, la mise en place de charte fournisseurs, l'usage ou la création d'outils de pilotage de l'impact, la création d'une fondation, la R&D, la gouvernance, la mise en place d'une stratégie dédiée, la présence sur la matrice de matérialité, etc.
- Notre étude est basée sur des engagements spécifiques à la biodiversité en excluant les engagements climat qui sont un sujet déjà bien pris en compte aujourd'hui

Entretiens avec des dirigeants d'entreprises

- Périmètre : ~30 entreprises dans les secteurs agricoles/viticoles, pharmaceutiques, de la cosmétique, de la chimie, de l'énergie, des déchets et du retail
- Entretiens utilisés dans le cadre de notre étude pour :
 - Identifier les obstacles rencontrés par les entreprises lorsqu'elles se saisissent du sujet de la préservation de la biodiversité
 - Comprendre comment les entreprises peuvent aller plus loin dans leurs actions en faveur de la biodiversité
 - Illustrer d'exemples les quatre étapes de la méthodologie conseillée afin d'avoir un impact positif sur la biodiversité (cf. partie 4 de la présentation)
 - Lister une liste de partenaires potentiels à chaque étape de cette méthodologie

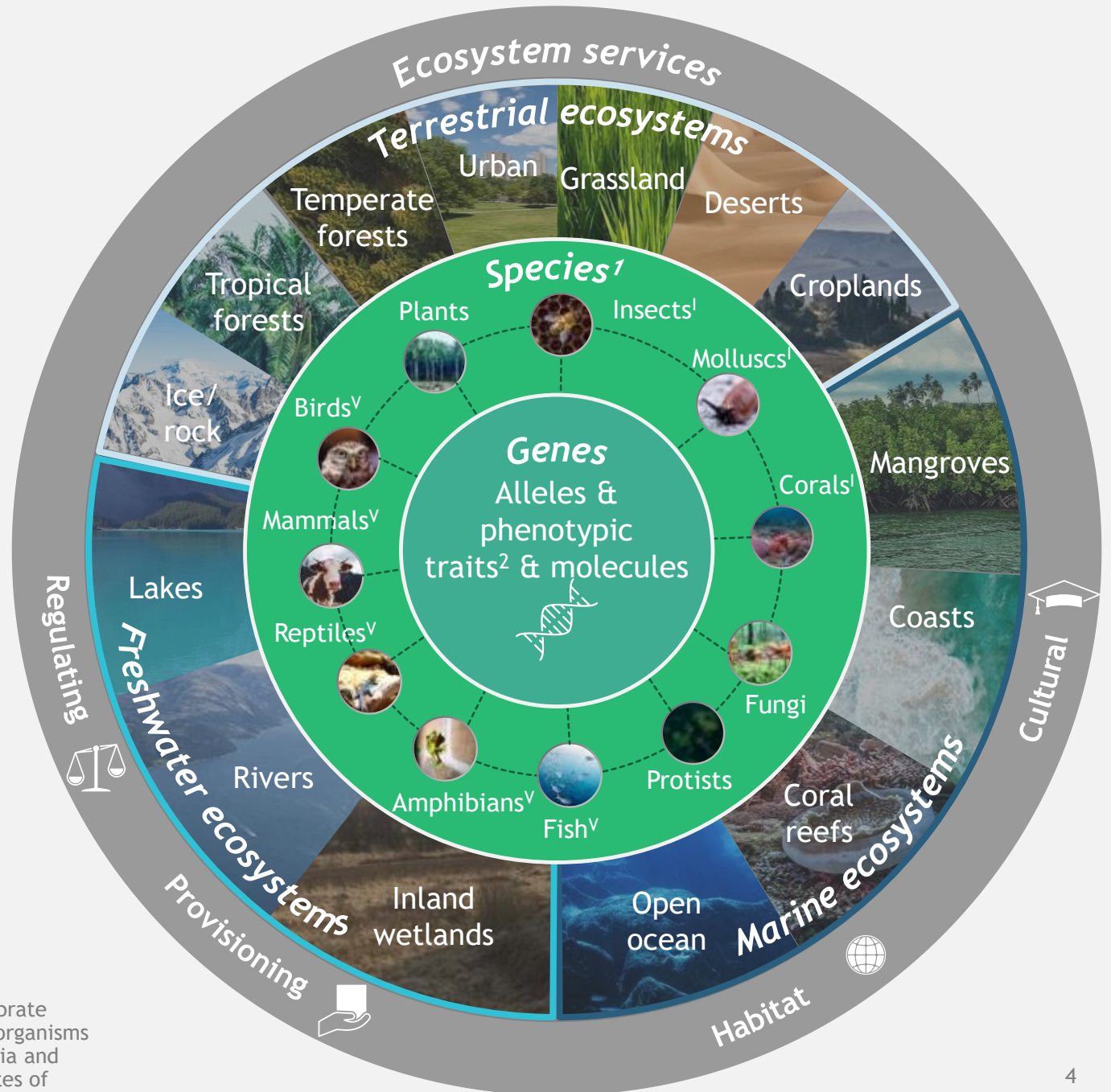
How much is
biodiversity worth?



What is biodiversity?

Biodiversity comprises three types of diversity on Earth, whose interplay generates valuable services

- I. Genetic diversity
- II. Species diversity
- III. Ecosystem diversity



Notes: Grasslands includes heath and bushes; species classified in plants, vertebrate animals (V), invertebrate animals (selection) (I), fungi and protists (single-cell organisms such as brown algae); IUCN definition does not include micro-organisms, bacteria and viruses; alleles are variants of genes; Phenotypic traits are visual character states of organisms. Sources: IPBES (2019); IUCN (2019); BCG analysis

Ecosystem services provide four types of benefits to humans



Provisioning

- Food
- Genetic & medical resources
- Raw materials (incl. freshwater)



Habitat

- Refugia & nursery service
- Soil formation



Regulating

- Climate regulation
- Waste treatment
- Erosion prevention
- Air quality
- Nutrient cycling
- Biological control
- Pollination
- Water regulation
- Disturbance moderation



Cultural

- Recreation
- Cultural heritage
- Spiritual values
- Education & inspiration



Note: Some differences in name and categorization exist. Bold green font denotes largest contributor of value to each category.
 Source: De Groot et al. 2012.; Costanza, R. et al; 2014

People and businesses rely heavily on ecosystem services and natural resources...

- Economic and carbon related 'dependency to biodiversity' examples -

>50%

of global GDP is dependent on high-functioning biodiversity and its services

5.6 Gt

of carbon p.a. (>10 % of global emissions) are sequestered by marine and terrestrial ecosystems i.e. \$560 bn with a price of \$100 a ton

Other 'dependency to biodiversity' examples

>75%

of global food crops including fruits, vegetables, almonds and coffee rely on animal pollination

>50%

of habitable land area is used for agriculture, 80% thereof for grazing and feedstuff production

70%

of antibiotics and cancer drugs are natural or synthetic products inspired by nature

...however, human activities ignite significant pressure on ecosystems...

...leading to a severe decline in global biodiversity

 Extraction & cultivation  Production  Service provision  Consumption



Land and sea use change: habitat conversion (e.g., deforestation), fragmentation, and degradation through over-intensive use of ecosystems



Direct over-exploitation: overexploitation of animals, plants, and ecosystems, e.g., from poaching, unsustainable logging or overfishing



Climate change: shifts in temperature, precipitation, and wind flows caused by increased levels of greenhouse gases in atmosphere



Pollution of soil, water and air: release of harmful substances, e.g., through excessive chemical use, into ecosystems; light and noise pollution



Spread of invasive species: plants, animals or other non-native organisms entering or expanding into a given habitat

68 %
less
vertebrates

Since 1970, **populations of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and fish** declined by ~68 %, and ~94% in tropical America

85 %
lost
wetlands

Biodiversity-rich wetlands declined by 85% since pre-industrial times—on average, 75% of land ecosystems have been changed by humans

75 %
decline of
insects

>75 % of **flying insect** biomass in protected areas was lost within only 27 years

>10x
more
livestock

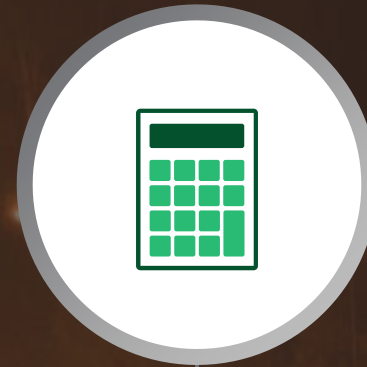
The total **biomass of livestock** (100 Mt C) far exceeds the biomass of wild mammals (7 Mt C) and birds (2 Mt C)

Biodiversity loss costs the global economy **\$5-25 trillion** each year

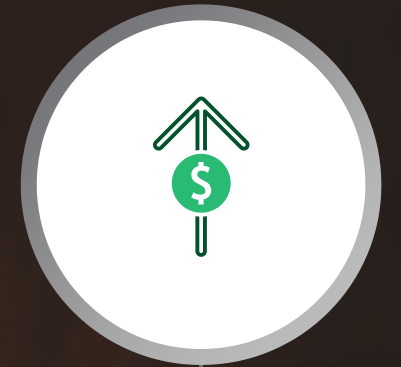
Based on already lost ecosystem area, the **economy forfeits ~\$5-25T** in ecosystem services each year



In 2010, the EU estimated an **annual Ecosystem Service Value loss of \$2.6T** (~3% of global GDP)¹ while **TEEB²** estimated ecosystem area loss alone to have lower annual ESV by **\$4-20T between 1997 and 2011³**

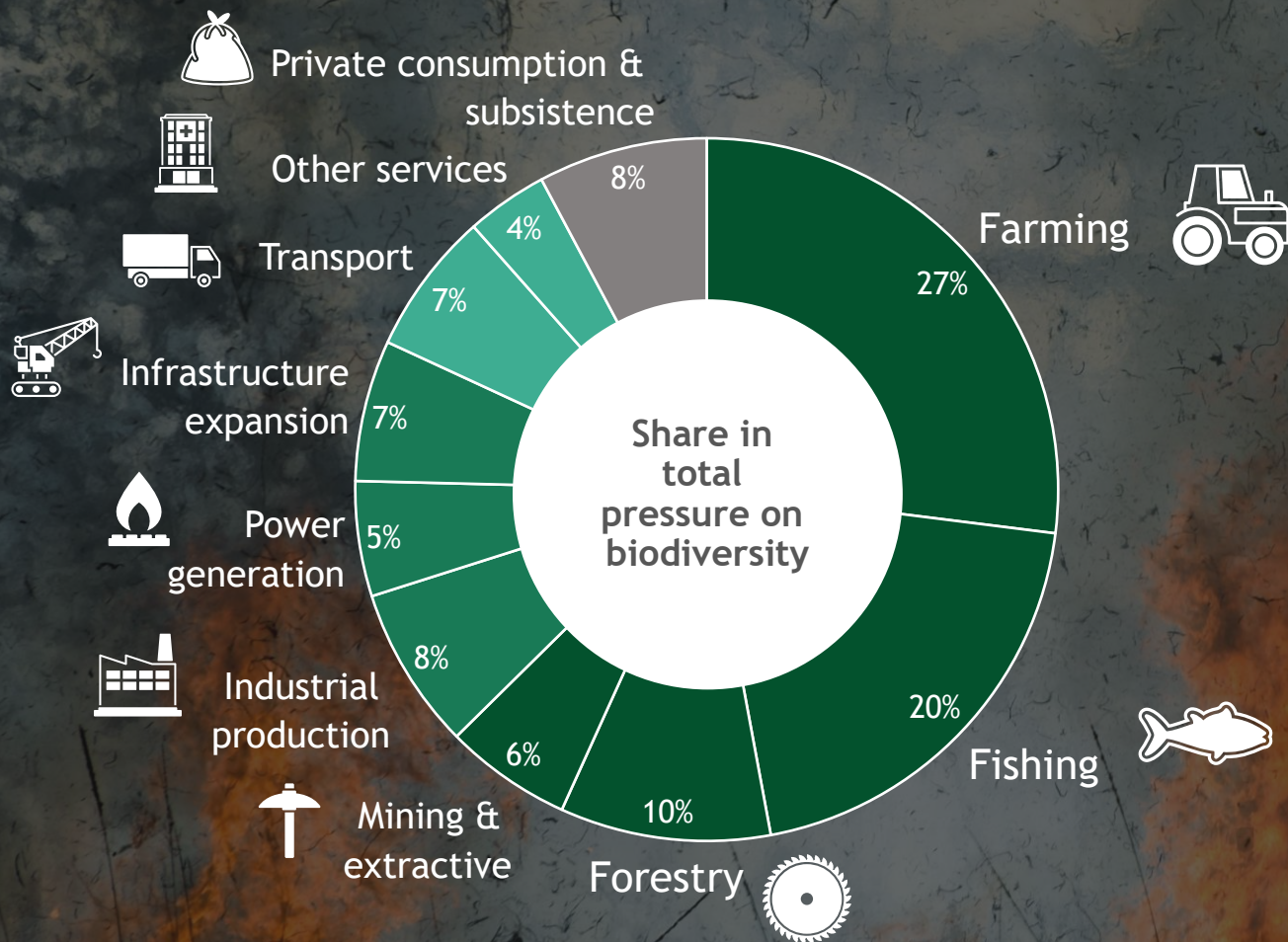


Updating those estimates based on economic growth, updated carbon price, inflation, etc., we derived an estimate of **\$5-25T annual services that are already lost**



If **degradation** through pollution, drying out, spread of diseases, etc. were included, **estimated damage** would be **even higher**

Extractive activities including farming are predominant sources of pressure



Note: Extraction of other plant and animal materials (e.g., officinal plants, animal fibers) not separately covered
 Source: IPBES (2019), WWF (2018), BCG

Value chain step

■ Primary sector	■ Secondary sector
■ Tertiary sector	■ Consumption

All sectors have a key role to play in biodiversity; in particular, fashion, food & beverage and infrastructure, which have primary activities that rely on farming, fishing, forestry, account for ~60% of biodiversity pressure

Why should
companies act on
biodiversity loss
now?



Increasing **regulation and awareness** among stakeholders drive risks and opportunities for corporates



Regulatory pressure is increasing

- In 2021, **UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** will release new targets that are expected to inspire binding regulation among members
- **EU outlined ambitious regulatory plans** in its 2030 Biodiversity & Farm to Fork Strategies—law on deforestation-free supply chains is upcoming



Consumers are shifting their purchasing behaviour

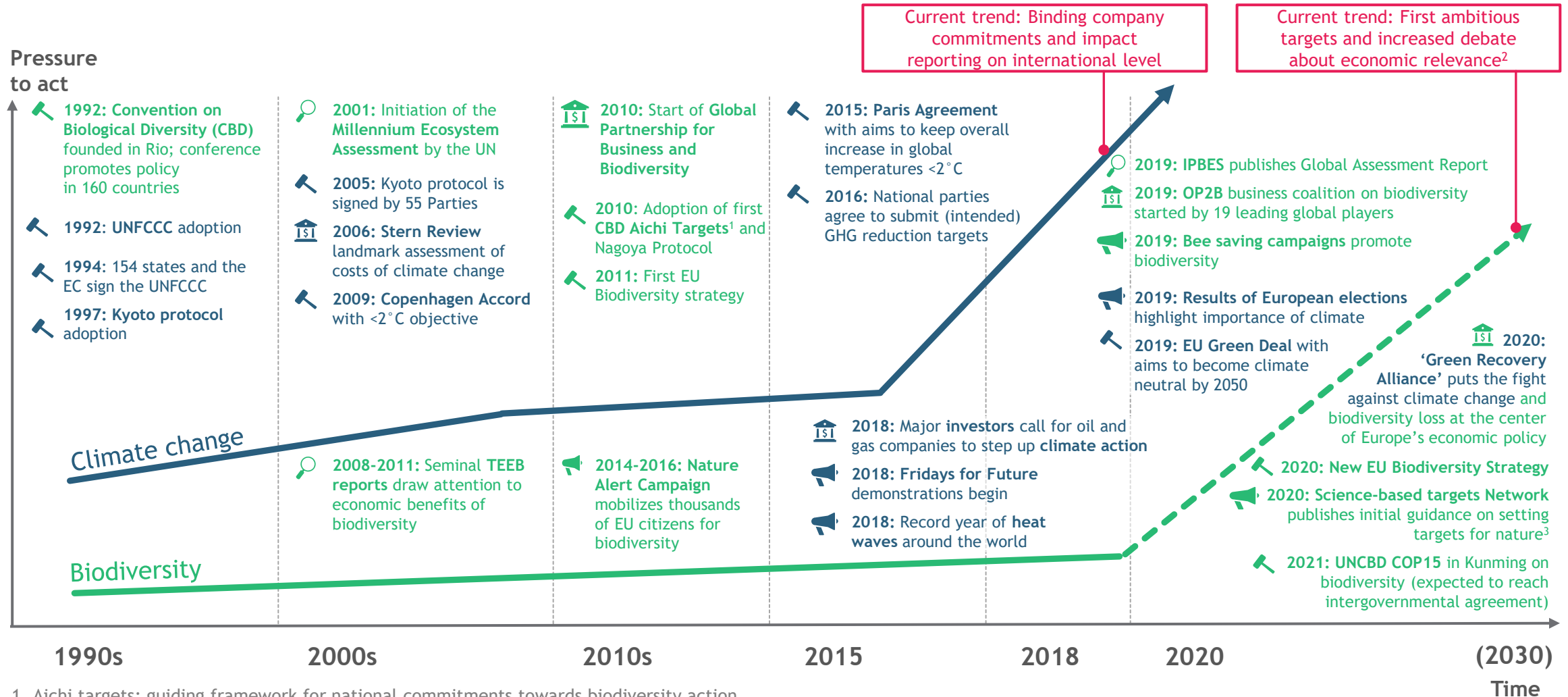
- Biodiversity loss now perceived as **second-largest environmental challenge** after climate change¹
- **Public perception** of companies and industries with negative environmental impact is worsening²—consumers have started to **shift their purchasing behavior**³



Investors are demanding transparency and action

- Traditional investors began **disinvesting sectors** that operate unsustainably and frequently challenge companies' commitments
- Recent calls by major European investors show **increasing focus on biodiversity**

Pressure to act on climate change has skyrocketed after 2015 - current developments predict similar surge for biodiversity after 2020



1. Aichi targets: guiding framework for national commitments towards biodiversity action, signed by over 190 countries; 2. Increased debate on biodiversity amongst others through COVID-19; 3. Nature here used equivalent to biodiversity; Source: UN, CBD, BCG analysis

Companies can benefit from tackling biodiversity

...by mitigating risks

Prevent supply chain disruptions

- Biodiversity loss threatens your resource supply...
- ...and enhances global warming and exposure to risks like flooding, erosion, or pandemics
- Global costs of inaction already >\$5 trillion p.a.

Avoid regulatory restrictions and costs ...given increasing policy ambitions

Maintain social license to operate ...given awareness among consumers and investors

...and seizing benefits

Expand to new markets or business fields

- Capture B2B demand for enabling technology (e.g., precision farming; climate technologies)
- Capture B2C demand for biodiv.-friendly products
- Monetize ecosystem service restoration

Reduce operating and funding costs

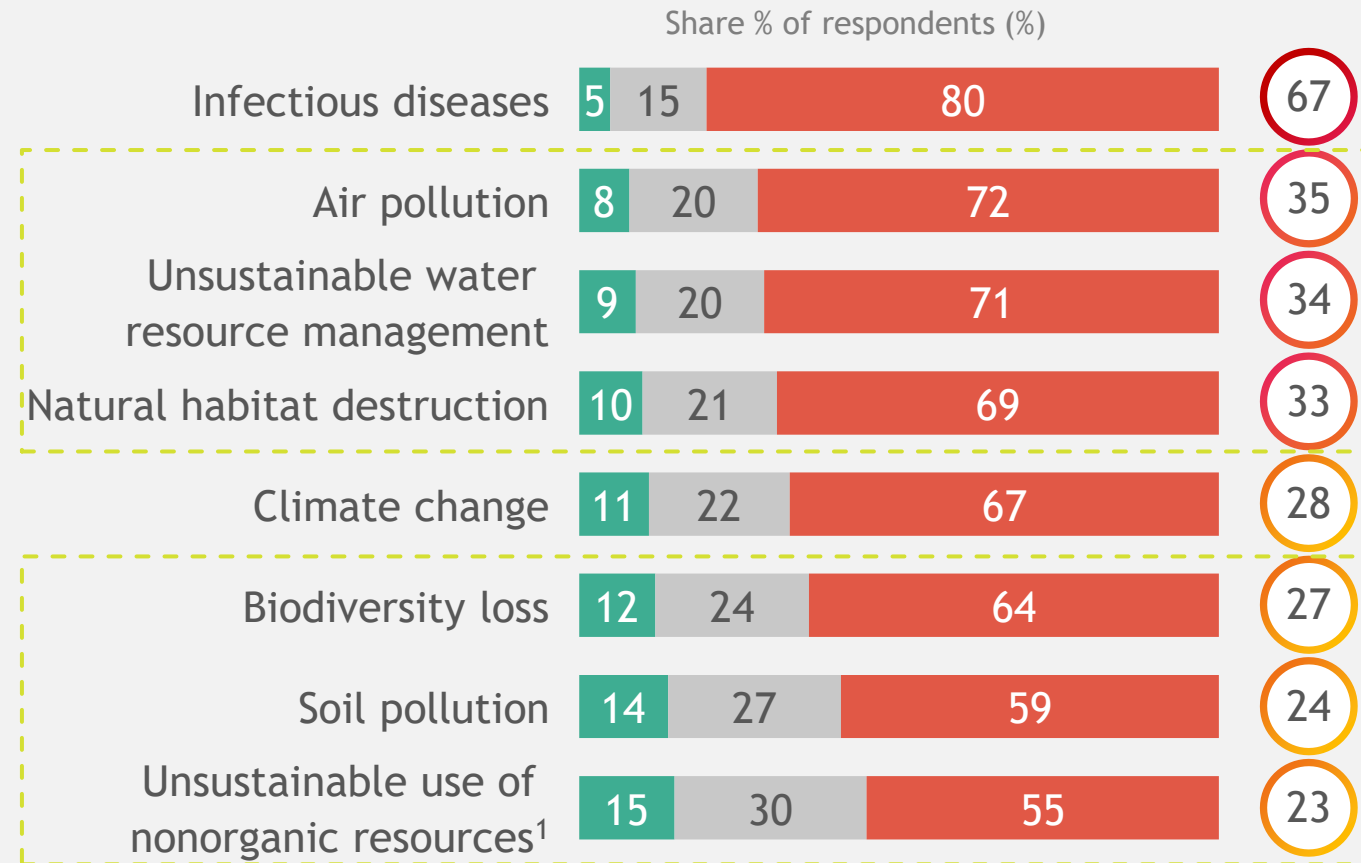
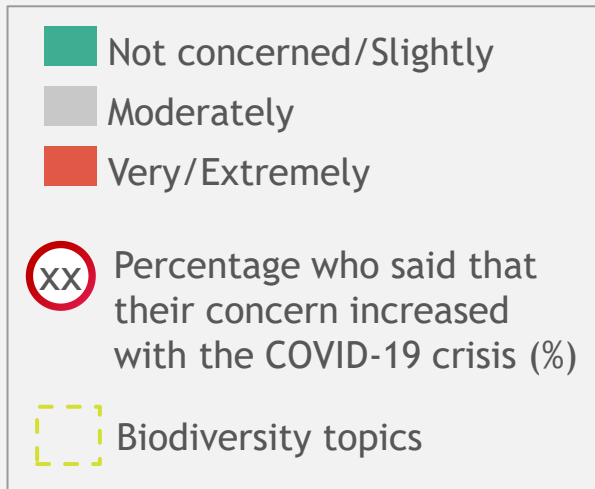
- Synergies
- Better access to capital via green funds

Enhance value proposition & employer attractiveness

...by catering to priorities of esp. young generations

The public has become more concerned about environmental issues since the COVID outbreak began

“
How concerned are you now about the following challenges?”



1. Nonorganic resources” refers mainly to resources used for mining, oil and gas extraction, and plastics use.

Source: BCG Survey on COVID-19 and Environment, conducted May 20-29, 2020, in Brazil, China, France, India, Indonesia, South Africa, the UK, and the US. Number of respondents N = 3,249.

Global leaders are already tackling the biodiversity loss issue, but pain points must be lifted to go further



Some CAC40 companies are tackling this issue with bold commitments...

- 48% mention the implementation of a **charter with their suppliers** in order to enforce responsible and sustainable practices
- 33% have designed a **specific strategy** regarding **biodiversity preservation** and positive impact
- 28% are part of **coalitions promoting biodiversity** or environmental issues
- 25% have listed "preservation of biodiversity" on their **materiality matrix but only 5% as an important¹ issue**

3.3

Retail is the most advanced sector with an average grade² of **3.3 out of 5** regarding **biodiversity issues**, the overall average being 2.3

...but lack of information can be a major obstacle in companies' first strategic approach to biodiversity

86%

While 86% of leading corporations¹ said they have or plan to develop a biodiversity strategy in the next two years...

4%

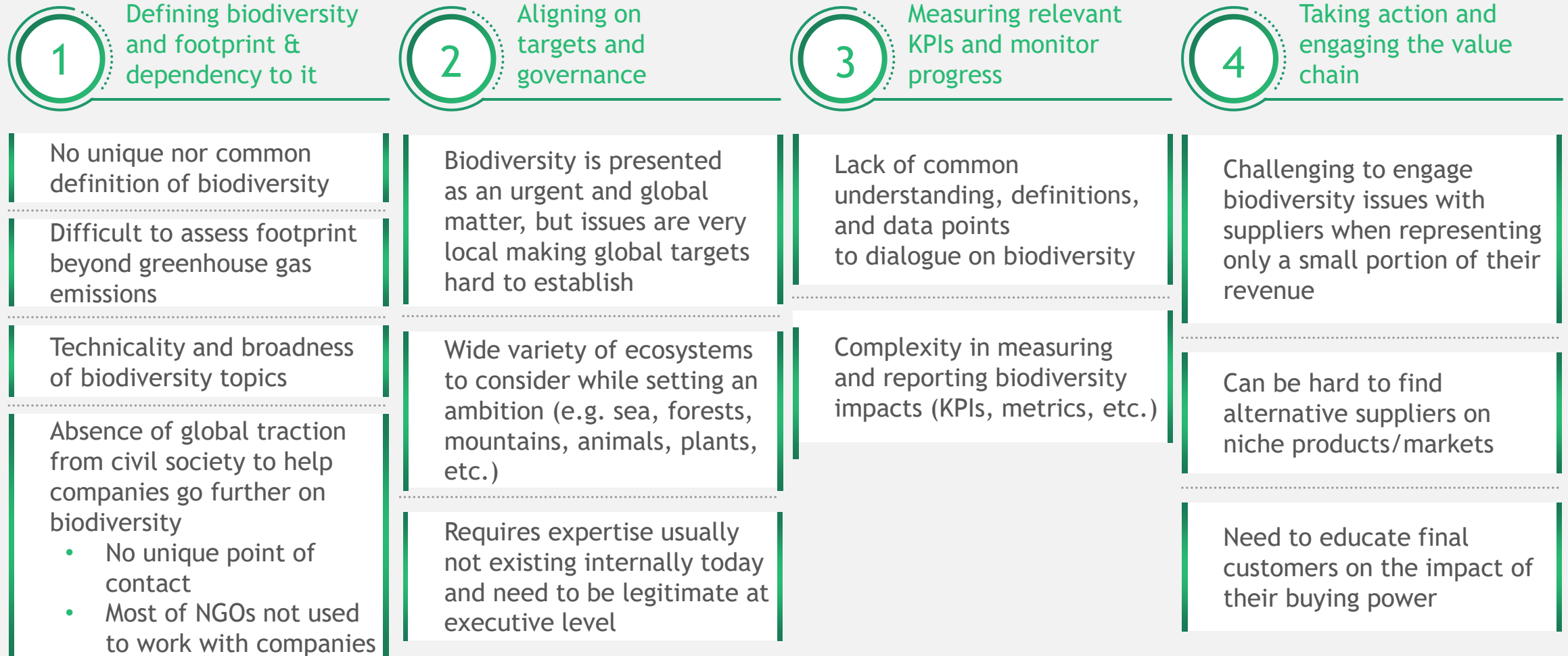
...only 4% feel well-informed about the correct actions to take



Delivering on those commitments is challenging—and companies may struggle to...

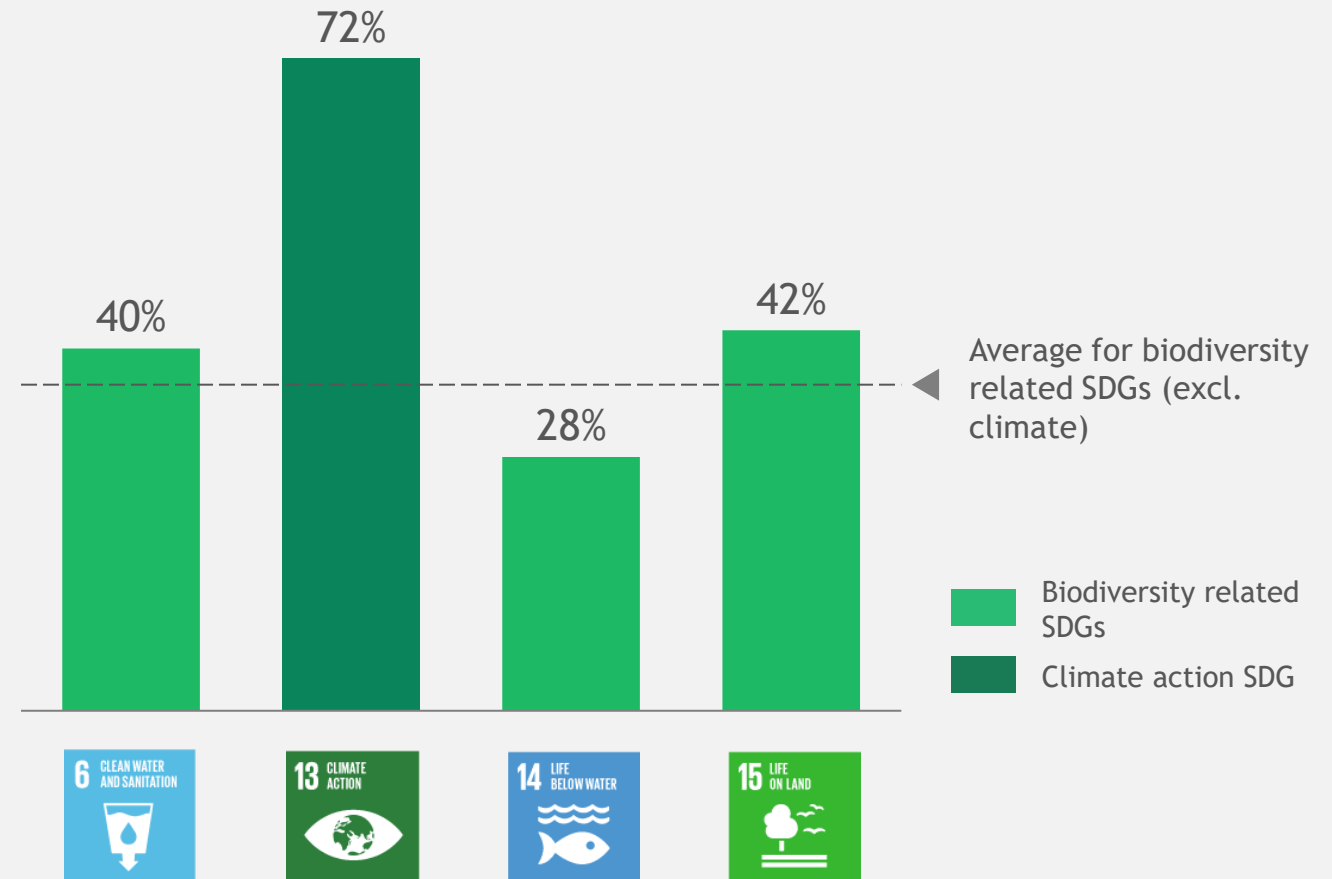
- 1 ...define biodiversity and footprint & dependency to it
- 2 ...align on targets, integrate them in their strategy and set up a governance to support it
- 3 ...detail and measure relevant KPIs on several disparate topics which can be hard to monitor
- 4 ...take action and engage different actors along the value chain including civil society

Illustration of challenges faced by companies



Biodiversity-related UN SDGs are less prioritized than the climate action SDGs

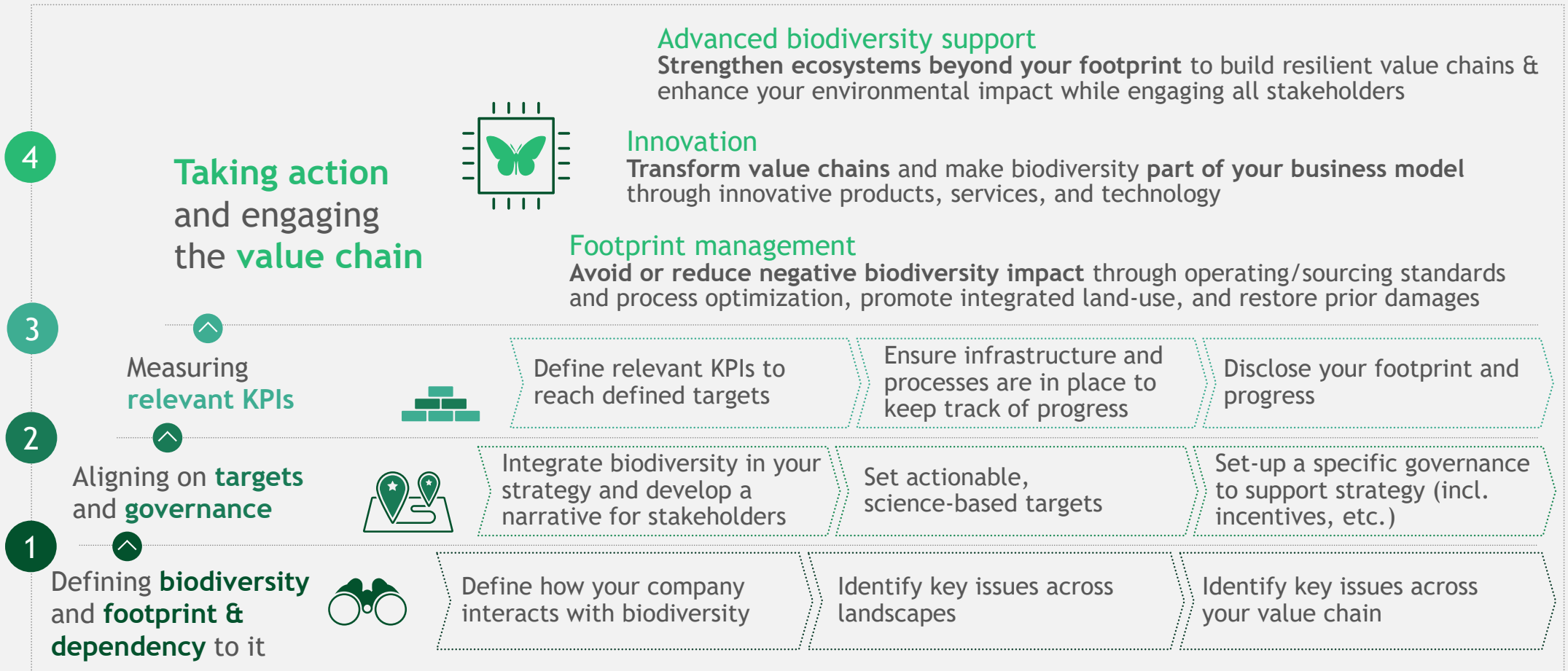
% of companies that have prioritized each SDG among companies that have prioritized SDGs



What are the
concrete solutions
and action plans
for companies?



The proposed framework for biodiversity action: four stages to biodiversity-positive business






Partnerships and coalitions can be leveraged all along the 4 stages

Stage 1: Defining biodiversity and footprint & dependency to it

The H&M example

H&M partnered with WWF to set the ambition of **reducing its pressure on biodiversity** and having a **net positive impact** in the longer term

	Interactions with biodiversity	H&M investigated on its interactions with biodiversity and concluded that it must avoid over-exploitation of natural resources . This is essential for the wellbeing of people and nature, but also for the resilience of their supply chain and their business
	Key issues across landscapes	H&M Group's ambition on biodiversity required a biodiversity footprint assessment to identify the biggest impact locations of its business
	Key issues across value chains	H&M audited its value chain to realize that the fashion industry impacts biodiversity on all levels of the value chain : raw materials, fabric/yarn production, transportation and use - but raw material production is where H&M Group has its biggest impact

Partners

Non exhaustive



Impact auditing NGOs:

- WWF
- Conservation without borders



Tools:

- ENCORE
- IBAT
- Global Biodiversity Score
- LCA tools



Strategy consulting firms



Audit & accounting firms

Stage 2: Aligning on targets and governance

Examples *(non exhaustive)*



Michelin is committed by 2030 to **implement resilient agricultural practices** that improve the productivity and quality of land and soil. To achieve this, Michelin works specifically on **sustainable cultivation of natural rubber** and plans to make it a global standard

L'ORÉAL

L'Oréal announced its vision for corporate responsibility for 2030 as part of the **L'Oréal Program for the Future**, which specifies a **set of objectives** in terms of climate, biodiversity, water and use of natural resources



Many companies have indexed **part of the variable compensation** of their top management on **CSR criteria**

Partners

Non exhaustive



NGOs:

- Noé
- IUCN



Science Based Targets Network



Strategy consulting firms

Stage 3: Measuring relevant KPIs and monitoring progress

Examples *(non exhaustive)*

CLARINS

Clarins has designed a 'Green score' for their formulas and a 'Pack score' for their packaging, which are used to arbitrate on the launch of a new product

K E R I N G


To guide its sustainability strategy, Kering has developed the Environmental P&L which measures carbon emissions, water consumption, air and water pollution, land use, and waste production along the entire supply chain to convert them into monetary values and quantify the use of natural resources

Kering is committed to achieving a “positive net impact” on biodiversity by 2025. To do so, they have pledged to protect one million hectares of critical and irreplaceable habitats outside their supply chain and to facilitate the transition to regenerative agricultural practices on another million hectares in landscapes where Kering's supply chain raw materials such as leather, cotton, wool or cashmere are produced and harvested

Partners

Non exhaustive



NGOs:

- Tenaka
- EverGreening



Bio-measurement start-ups:

- Satellite deforestation tools (eg: Satelligence)
- Carbon sequestration (eg: Carbon Engineering)
- Biodiversity measurement tools (eg: Greenback)



Tools:

- ENCORE
- IBAT
- Global Biodiversity Score
- LCA tools

Stage 4: Taking action and engaging the value chain

Examples *(non exhaustive)*

Footprint management



Patagonia established the **Regenerative Organic Certification (ROC)**, the world's highest-bar organic designation. It encompasses organic farming and then raises the bar, prioritizing building **soil health**

Innovation



One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B) is an international cross-sectorial **coalition** on biodiversity with a specific focus on **agriculture**. It is determined to drive systemic change and catalyze action to **protect & restore** cultivated and natural biodiversity, **engage financial decision-makers**, and **promote policy recommendations**

Advanced biodiversity support



The Rocher Group, Clarins, L'Oréal and Coty have joined forces around the **Responsible Beauty Initiative (RBI)**: an initiative that aims to encourage and accelerate **ethical, social and environmental** performance throughout their **supply chain**

Partners

Non exhaustive



Start-ups:

- Plant for the planet
- SLA



Regulators

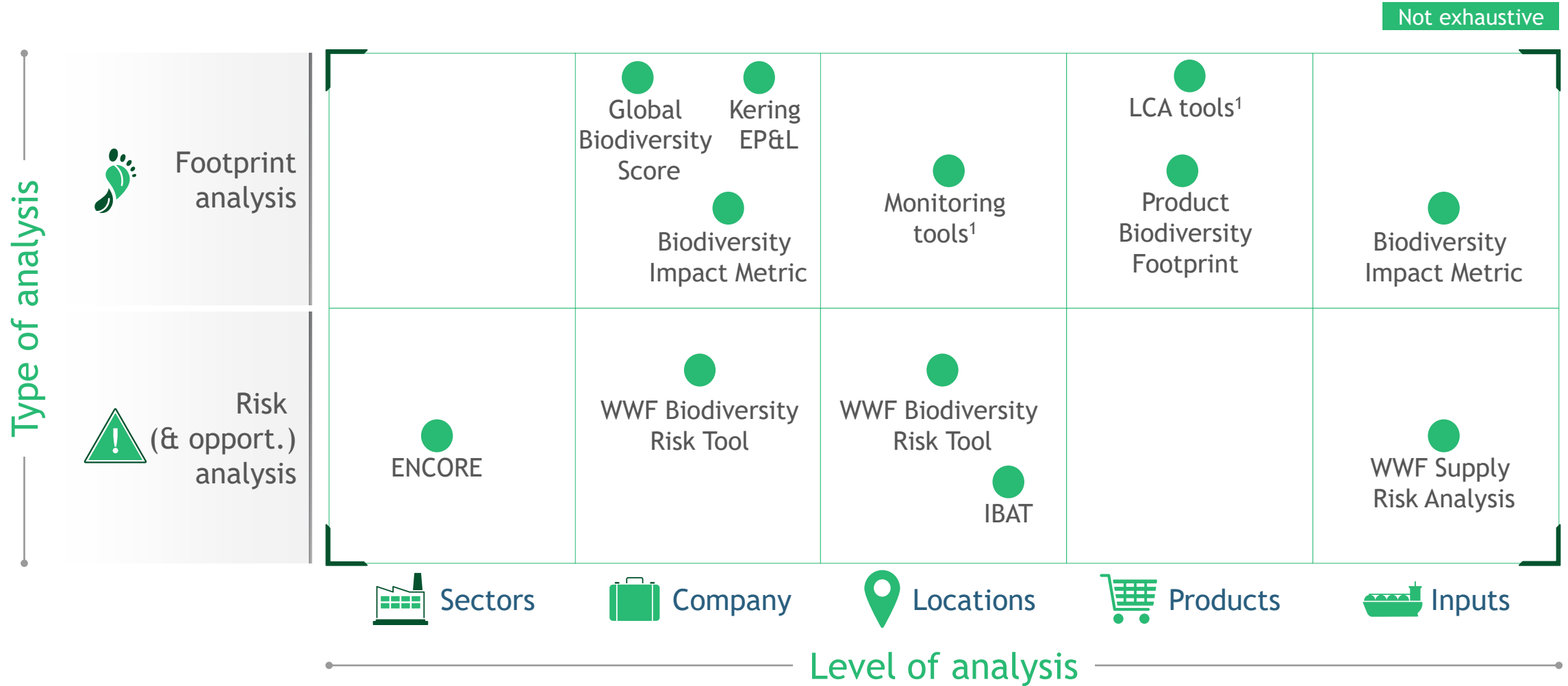


Financial actors



Civil society

The landscape of tools for identifying biodiversity issues



1. Diverse tools, many of which are provided by tech start-ups
 Note: LCA = Life Cycle Assessment
 Source: WWF, BCG

A growing ecosystem of partners can support businesses in their transformation

Science Based Targets Network to provide expertise, frameworks and data

Platforms and events to network and find solutions together

NGOs to dispense specific knowledge on various niche topics and gather the right actors to form coalitions

Start-ups to supply measuring and eco-scoring tools to monitor progress

Audit & accounting firms to audit the business' extra-financial performance and impact



Financial actors to provide financial support and synergies to achieve the transformation

Regulators to lay set up a legal and regulatory framework favorable to companies committing to biodiversity

Civil society to push companies to change their business habits and ways of working

Strategy consulting firms to help defining a strategy, structuring it and implementing it

We define 17 ambitious biodiversity objectives to guide action across value chains



First movers will gain competitive advantage enabling:



Access to new markets



Stronger value proposition



Employee retention



Lower financing costs

How to quickly get going on this urgent topic

- 1 Realize biodiversity can be both a major risk and opportunity
- 2 Assess your maturity on biodiversity framework and build action plan
- 3 Select the 3 to 4 most relevant biodiversity objectives to be addressed by your company
- 4 Put into action: control your footprint, drive innovation, and support biodiversity even beyond your own business

Disclaimer

The services and materials provided by Boston Consulting Group (BCG) are subject to BCG's Standard Terms (a copy of which is available upon request) or such other agreement as may have been previously executed by BCG. BCG does not provide legal, accounting, or tax advice. The Client is responsible for obtaining independent advice concerning these matters. This advice may affect the guidance given by BCG. Further, BCG has made no undertaking to update these materials after the date hereof, notwithstanding that such information may become outdated or inaccurate.

The materials contained in this presentation are designed for the sole use by the board of directors or senior management of the Client and solely for the limited purposes described in the presentation. The materials shall not be copied or given to any person or entity other than the Client ("Third Party") without the prior written consent of BCG. These materials serve only as the focus for discussion; they are incomplete without the accompanying oral commentary and may not be relied on as a stand-alone document. Further, Third Parties may not, and it is unreasonable for any Third Party to, rely on these materials for any purpose whatsoever. To the fullest extent permitted by law (and except to the extent otherwise agreed in a signed writing by BCG), BCG shall have no liability whatsoever to any Third Party, and any Third Party hereby waives any rights and claims it may have at any time against BCG with regard to the services, this presentation, or other materials, including the accuracy or completeness thereof. Receipt and review of this document shall be deemed agreement with and consideration for the foregoing.

BCG does not provide fairness opinions or valuations of market transactions, and these materials should not be relied on or construed as such. Further, the financial evaluations, projected market and financial information, and conclusions contained in these materials are based upon standard valuation methodologies, are not definitive forecasts, and are not guaranteed by BCG. BCG has used public and/or confidential data and assumptions provided to BCG by the Client. BCG has not independently verified the data and assumptions used in these analyses. Changes in the underlying data or operating assumptions will clearly impact the analyses and conclusions.



[bcg.com](https://www.bcg.com)